FISCAL NOTE

SB 856 - HB 1717

March 3, 2003

SUMMARY OF BILL: Requires a health insurance plan to reimburse a physician or a licensed physician assistant for services when functioning as first assistant to a primary surgeon. When a physician assistant functions as first assistant, the payment is made to the employer of the physician assistant. The bill is applicable to plans issued or renewed by health insurance companies after July 1, 2004. The bill does not apply to TennCare, plans that cover state or local government employees, and health plans preempted from state regulation by the Federal Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

MINIMAL

The impact on state and local governments is estimated to be minimal, since the bill excludes all government plans from its coverage.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

James A. Davenport, Executive Director

James a. Dowenger